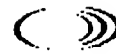


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DATE: December 8, 2004

TO: Examiner Amy B. Vanatta  
FIRM NAME: USPTO/TC 3765FAX #: 1-703-872-9306  
PHONE #: 1-703-308-0861FROM: Gary M. Polumbus  
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## COMMENTS:

Re: Appl. No. 09/887,966

Confirmation No. 7669

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Due: December 16, 2004

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USA CANADA EUROPE ASIA

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/887,966 Confirmation No. 7669  
Applicant : Bryan K. Ruggles and Stewart F. Matthews  
Filed : June 22, 2001  
TC/AU : 3765  
Examiner : Amy B. Vanatta  
Docket No. : 2091/US (formerly 077056-0341)  
Customer No.: 20686  
For : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR RELIEVING STRESS IN A  
FABRIC

## CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION BY FACSIMILE (37 CFR 1.8)

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Name: Donna Carrera

Signature: 

## AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office communication mailed September 16, 2004, please  
amend the subject application as follows:

Claim amendments begin on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 5.